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C. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which reconsideration is requested.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for rating a party to a call comprising:

detecting, at a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a call supported within a trusted telephone network, an identity of a first party to [[a]] said call with an identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said first party and a context of said call;

requesting a second party to said call to rate said first party to said call and said context of said call through a communication from said context rating service to said second party;

responsive to receiving at said context rating service said rating entered by said second party, selecting at least one relevant context rating database for a type of said rating from among a plurality of context rating databases each for storing a separate selection of types of ratings and each accessible to one of said context rating service and a plurality of separate context rating services accessible across said packet switching network; and

storing said rating by said second party, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call in association with said identity of said first party to said call in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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2.   (Original) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein detecting an identity further comprises:

detecting at least one from among a name of said first party, a line number utilized by said first party, a business represented by said first party, a location of said first party, a subject of said call initiated by said first party, and a billing plan for said first party.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein requesting a second party further comprises:

prompting said second party, through said communication from said context rating service, to rate at least one from among an individual representing said first party, a business representing said first party, and a context of said call.

4.   (Original) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein storing said rating further comprises:

storing said rating for retrieval by only said second party to said call.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein storing said rating further comprises:

storing said rating, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call for accumulation with other ratings for said identity of said first party in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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6.   (Currently Amended) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting, at said context rating service, an identity of said second party to said call with an identification of a second device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said second party;

selecting said at least one relevant context rating database for storage of said rating in association with said second party from among said plurality of context rating databases; and

storing said rating by said second party of said first party and said identification of said second device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said second party in association with said identity of said second party in said at least one relevant context rating database.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, further comprising:

selecting said at least one relevant context rating database from among said plurality of context rating databases for storage of said rating in association with said context of said call, wherein said context comprises a separate identifier of a type of each of a first telephony device used by said first party and a second telephony device used by said second party, a separate location of each of said first telephony device and said second telephony device, and a subject of said call.

storing said rating by said second party of said first party in association with a context of said call.

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8. (Original) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 7, wherein said context of said call comprises at least one from among a subject of said call, a billed transaction completed during said call, a product purchased during said call, a location of said first party and said second party during said call, a billing plan for said call, an identity of said first party to said call, a length of said call, a path of said call, and an identity of said second party to said call.

9. (Original) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein said first party is a caller and said second party is a callee.

10. (Original) The method for rating a party to a call according to claim 1, wherein said first party is a callee and a second party is a caller.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a party to a call comprising:

detecting, at a particular context rating service from among a plurality of separate context rating services accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a call supported within a trusted telephone network, an identity of a first party to [[a]] said call with an identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said first party;

compiling, at said particular context rating service, a current rating for said first party according to previous ratings for said first party retrieved from at least one from among a plurality of context databases each comprising at least one previous rating entry associated with said identity of said first party and stored by at least one from among said plurality of separate context rating services, wherein said plurality of context databases are each accessible to one of said particular context rating service only and separate selections of said plurality of separate context rating services; and

controlling output of said current rating to a second party to said call.

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13.   (Currently Amended) A system for rating a party to a call comprising:

~~a communication system enabling a call between a first party and a second party;~~

a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a call between a first party and a second party enabled by a trusted telephone network;

said context rating service further comprising:

means for detecting an identity of said first party to said call with an identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said first party and a context of said call;

means for requesting said second party to said call to rate said first party to said call and said context of said call through a communication from said context rating service to said second party;

means, responsive to receiving said rating entered by said second party, for selecting at least one relevant context rating database for a type of said rating from among a plurality of context rating databases each for storing a separate selection of types of ratings and each accessible to one of said context rating service and a plurality of separate context rating services accessible across said packet switching network; and

means for storing said rating by said second party, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call in association with said identity of said first party to said call in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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14. (Original) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said means for detecting said identity further comprises:

means for detecting at least one from among a name of said first party, a line number utilized by said first party, a business represented by said first party, a location of said first party, a subject of said call initiated by said first party, and a billing plan for said first party.

15. (Currently Amended) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said means for requesting said second party further comprises:

means for prompting, through said communication from said context rating service, said second party to rate at least one from among an individual representing said first party, a business representing said first party, and a context of said call.

16. (Original) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said means for storing said rating further comprises:

means for storing said rating for retrieval by only said second party to said call.

17. (Currently Amended) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said means for storing said rating further comprises:

means for storing said rating, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call for accumulation with other ratings for said identity of said first party in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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18.   (Currently Amended) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, <u>said context rating service</u> further comprising:

    means for <u>detecting, at said context rating service, an identity of said second party to said call with an identification of a second device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said second party;</u>

    means for <u>selecting said at least one relevant context rating database for storage of said rating in association with said second party from among said plurality of context rating databases;</u> and

    means for storing said rating by said second party of said first party <u>and said identification of said second device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said second party</u> in association with said <u>identity of said</u> second party <u>in said at least one relevant context rating database</u>.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, <u>said context rating service</u> further comprising:

    means for <u>selecting said at least one relevant context rating database from among said plurality of context rating databases for storage of said rating in association with said context of said call, wherein said context comprises a separate identifier of a type of each of a first telephony device used by said first party and a second telephony device used by said second party, a separate location of each of said first telephony device and said second telephony device, and a subject of said call</u>
    ~~storing said rating by said second party of said first party in association with a context of said call~~.

20.   (Original) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 19, wherein said context of said call comprises at least one from among a subject of said call, a billed transaction completed during said call, a product purchased during said call, a location of said first party and said second party during said call, a billing plan for said call, an identity of said first party to said call, a length of said call, a path of said call, and an identity of said second party to said call.

21.   (Original) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said first party is a caller and said second party is a callee.

22.   (Original) The system for rating a party to a call according to claim 13, wherein said first party is a callee and a second party is a caller.

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23.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for rating a party to a call comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting, at a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a call supported within a trusted telephone network, an identity of a first party to [[a]] said call with an identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said first party and a context of said call

means, recorded on said recording medium, for requesting a second party to said call to rate said first party to said call and said context of said call through a communication from said context rating service to said second party;

means, recording on said recording medium, responsive to receiving at said context rating service said rating entered by said second party, for selecting at least one relevant context rating database for a type of said rating from among a plurality of context rating databases each for storing a separate selection of types of ratings and each accessible to one of said context rating service and a plurality of separate context rating services accessible across said packet switching network; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for storing said rating by said second party, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call in association with said identity of said first party to said call in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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24.   (Original) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting at least one from among a name of said first party, a line number utilized by said first party, a business represented by said first party, a location of said first party, a subject of said call initiated by said first party, and a billing plan for said first party.

25.   (Original) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for prompting said second party to rate at least one from among an individual representing said first party, a business representing said first party, and a context of said call.

26.   (Original) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, wherein said means for storing said rating further comprises:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for storing said rating for retrieval by only said second party to said call.

27.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, wherein said means for storing said rating further comprises:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for storing said rating storing said rating, said identification of said device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said first party, and said context of said call for accumulation with other ratings for said identity of said first party in said at least one relevant context rating database.

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28.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for detecting, at said context rating service, an identity of said second party to said call with an identification of a second device that performed a voice authentication of said identity of said second party;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for selecting said at least one relevant context rating database for storage of said rating in association with said second party from among said plurality of context rating databases; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for storing said rating by said second party of said first party and said identification of said second device that performed said voice authentication of said identity of said second party in association with said identity of said second party in said at least one relevant context rating database.

29.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product for rating a party to a call according to claim 23, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for selecting said at least one relevant context rating database from among said plurality of context rating databases for storage of said rating in association with said context of said call, wherein said context comprises a separate identifier of a type of each of a first telephony device used by said first party and a second telephony device used by said second party, a separate location of each of said first telephony device and said second telephony device, and a subject of said call storing said rating by said second party of said first party in association with a context of said call.

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30.   (Currently Amended) A method for independent party ratings comprising:

monitoring a context of a call by an independent party of said call, wherein said party monitors said context of said call from an independent service via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to said call supported within a trusted telephone network, wherein said context of said call comprises at least one identity of at least one party to said call with at least one identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity;

identifying, at said independent service, a rating for said context for said call assigned by said independent party; and

storing, by said independent service, said rating by said independent party in association with said context in at least one context rating database from among a plurality of context rating databases each accessible to one of said independent service and a plurality of separate services accessible across said packet switching network, wherein said rating is retrievable by a subsequent party to at least one portion of said context of said call.

31.   (Original) The method for independent party ratings according to claim 30, wherein said rating is from a scale comprising at least one from among a numerical rating scale and an alphanumeric rating scale.

32.   (Currently Amended) The method for independent party ratings according to claim 30, wherein said context further comprises at least one from among an identity of at least one party to said call, a location of at least one party to said call, a schedule of said at least one party to said call, a billing plan for said at least one party to said call, a subject of said call, and a content of said call.

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33. (Currently Amended) A system for independent party ratings comprising:

~~a communication system enabling a call between a first party and a second party;~~
an independent service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a call enabled by a trusted telephone network;

said independent service further comprising:

means for enabling an independent party to monitor[[ing]] a context of a call without participating in said call, ~~by an independent party of said call~~ wherein said context of said call comprises at least one identity of at least one party to said call with at least one identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity;

means for identifying a rating ~~for said context~~ for said call assigned by said independent party; and

means for storing said rating by said independent party in association with said context in at least one context rating database from among a plurality of context rating databases each accessible to one of said independent service and a plurality of separate services accessible across said packet switching network, wherein said rating is retrievable by a subsequent party to at least one portion ~~of said context~~ of said call.

34. (Original) The system for independent party ratings according to claim 33, wherein said rating is from a scale comprising at least one from among a numerical rating scale and an alphanumeric rating scale.

35. (Currently Amended) The system for independent party ratings according to claim 33, wherein said context comprises at least one from among ~~an identity of at least one party to said call, a location of at least one party to said call,~~ a schedule of said at least one party to said call, a billing plan for said at least one party to said call, a subject of said call, and a content of said call.

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36.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for independent party ratings comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for monitoring a context of a call by an independent party of said call, wherein said party monitors said context of said call from an independent service via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to said call supported within a trusted telephone network, wherein said context of said call comprises at least one identity of at least one party to said call with at least one identification of a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for identifying a rating for said context for said call assigned by said independent party; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for storing said rating by said independent party in association with said context in at least one context rating database from among a plurality of context rating databases each accessible to one of said independent service and a plurality of separate services accessible across said packet switching network, wherein said rating is retrievable by a subsequent party to at least one portion of said context of said call.

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37.   (Currently Amended) A method for call party identification comprising:

responsive to sending a request within a trusted telephone network for a rating for a party to a call with an identity for said party and an identifier for a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity for said party, receiving [[a]] said rating for [[a]] said party to said call at a telephony device enabling said call from a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to said trusted telephone network supporting said call; and

controlling, by said telephony device, output of said rating for said party to said call via an output interface of said telephony device.

38.   (Canceled).

39.   (Canceled).

40.   (Original) The method for call party identification according to claim 37, wherein said output interface is a graphical user interface.

41.   (Original) The method for call party identification according to claim 37, wherein said output interface is an audio output device.

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42.   (Currently Amended) A system for call party identification comprising:

a telephony device enabling a call;

said telephony device further comprising:

means, responsive to sending a request within a trusted telephone network for a rating for a party to a call with an identity for said party and an identifier for a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity for said party, for receiving [[a]] said rating for [[a]] said party to said call at said telephony device from a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to said trusted telephone network supporting said call; and

means for controlling output of said rating for said party to said call via an output interface of said telephony device.

43.   (Canceled).

44.   (Canceled).

45.   (Original) The system for call party identification according to claim 42, wherein said output interface is a graphical user interface.

46.   (Original) The system for call party identification according to claim 42, wherein said output interface is an audio output device.

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47.　　(Currently Amended) A computer program product for call party identification comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for receiving a rating for a party to a call at a telephony device enabling said call from a context rating service accessible via a packet switching network communicatively connected via a secure gateway to a trusted telephone network supporting said call, responsive to sending a request within said trusted telephone network for said rating for said party to said call with an identity for said party and an identifier for a device that performed a voice authentication of said identity for said party; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling output of said rating for said party to said call via an output interface of said telephony device.

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